

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HINGE GUARD.

Application filed December 27, 1921. Serial No. 525,123.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STONEWALL J. SHEPHERD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Memphis, in the county of Shelby and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hinge Guards, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to hinge guards and has for its object to provide such a device in combination with the door of automobiles, more especially Ford sedans and similar closed cars where the door hinge is adjacent to the seat.

It is a well known fact that in Ford sedans and other similar types of automobiles in which the door hinge is adjacent the seat, persons seated in the machine frequently place their hands against the wall of the car body, and if the door happens to be open, quite often the fingers will extend into the space between the door and the jamb. Should the door be then closed it is obvious that the person's fingers would be seriously injured if not completely amputated. Such accidents frequently occur and it is the object of the present invention to provide a guard which will prevent the fingers from getting into the hinge, and to this end I have provided the device shown in the accompanying drawing, in which;

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the interior of an automobile showing my hinge guard in place.

Figure 2 is a horizontal section through the hinge guard, the door and car body being shown in dotted lines.

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2, the door being shown swung open.

Figure 4 is a front elevation of one form of attaching means.

Figures 5 and 6 are horizontal and vertical sections respectively, showing the manner of securing the hinge guard in place.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of one of the buttons with which the guard is provided, and

Figure 8 is a fragmentary horizontal section through a slightly modified form of the device.

Referring to the drawing more in detail, the numeral 1 designates a car body provided with a door 2 hinged as indicated by the numeral 3. Attached to the interior of the car body and extending across the hinge

3 is the guard member 4, formed of flexible material such as leather or the like, and also plaited as shown. The guard may be made to extend the entire length of the hinge if found desirable.

While the guard member may be attached to the door frame and door in any desired manner, I prefer to use the bracket members 5 provided with the embossed portion 6, slotted as indicated at 7. These brackets may be secured to the car body by means of screws 8, or any other form of fastening means. The guard member 4 is provided with a plurality of buttons 9 fastened along each longitudinal edge thereof and spaced apart vertically the same distance as the brackets 5. In attaching the guard it is only necessary to place the same with the buttons toward the car body and slightly above the slots 7; a slight downward pressure will securely lock the guard in place.

In Figure 8 I have shown a slightly modified form of the invention in which the guard 10 is formed of a plain sheet of flexible material provided with sufficient fullness to permit a complete and free opening of the door.

In both forms of the invention the guard may be provided with elastic strips 11 which aid in returning the guard to its normal position.

In accordance with the patent statutes I have described what I now believe to be the best embodiment of the invention, but I do not wish to be understood thereby as limiting myself or the scope of the invention, as many changes and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention, all such I aim to include in the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The combination with an automobile body, of a door hinged to swing outwardly therefrom and normally in the plane of the side of the automobile, a seat permanently positioned adjacent said hinge, and a guard of flexible material covering the hinge on the interior of the car body and secured to the car body and door.

2. The combination with an automobile body, of a door hinged to swing outwardly therefrom, a seat permanently positioned adjacent said hinge, a guard of flexible material covering the hinge on the interior of the